

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Support Services Staff

SUBJECT : NPIC Request for the Storage of Models

1. The NPIC request for the storage of their models has been noted, the scope of the Agency-related problem studied, the White House requirements researched, the precedents at National Archives, the Smithsonian Institution, and Patent Office reviewed, and the opinions of the Historical Staff and Office of Security sought. Also, in light of the recent expressions by the Director requiring retention of OSS files/ and of the Executive Director-Comptroller endorsing the concept of an Agency Archives, I evaluated the problem not as a simple problem of storage but rather as a question of information preservation and policy precedent. Consequently, I recommend the following actions related to the policy of model preservation and security:

- a. The CIA Archives and Records Center should accept the NPIC models and others in the Agency that are offered for eventual Archival preservation. Besides providing the storage and service of models, the Agency Records Administration Officer will take steps to evaluate such models to determine which are significant and warrant permanent preservation and with the Operating Offices concerned will schedule the disposition dates for the remaining temporary models.
- b. Since the space at the Archives and Records Center [ ] is limited, it will be necessary for the DDC to request the DDI to have the Director of ODCI consolidate his two rooms of maps and reference materials in our basement into only one room. This will be inconvenient but it is feasible. The released space will be used for Archival models. [ ] will have to be instructed by the DDC to provide laborers to accomplish this consolidation and the necessary shelving changes.
- c. Eventually the temporary models will have to be moved from this space to other storage and finally they will be returned to the creating component for dismantling and destruction.
- d. Because the models do not show the source and method of intelligence gathering that led to their construction, the models do not warrant the burden of TOP SECRET controls. In fact, the use of CODEWORD controls will actually reveal the model's source and method. Classified handling at a SECRET level will permit secure and efficient storage and transportation of the models as it does the other NPIC and Security record material of very sensitive

character. If higher classification is required for these models then the requesting components will have to provide the funds and personnel for the special guards, alarms, and transportation required. The storage and retrieval of these old models should not necessitate any new security beyond our existing armed couriers, documented transfers, and vaulted rooms.

2. The foregoing recommendations are based on the Federal experience with the Patent Office destruction of hundreds of historic patent models. That action prompted a National Archives Regulation on preserving briefing charts and materials and a Directive from President Johnson to all Agency Heads urging them to deposit in the Presidential Libraries the historic models they no longer required for operational purposes. My discussions with Archives representatives on model storage and their experiences with the Smithsonian and Patent offices elicited the observation: "National Archives will be very pleased to receive any CIA models they no longer need or wish to preserve." Conferences with the Historic Staff found that they strongly endorse Agency preservation of historic models and will assist in their evaluation. An Office of Security officer expressed concern about the method of the disposition of the temporary models and recommended dismantling them. That Office is considering the model question further.

3. There is an important Archival precedent to be established by this decision related to CIA models. I have completed additional research on the philosophy and development of Archival practices. Attached is a summary of that research for your convenience.

4. If you agree with my recommendations in paragraph one above, I shall proceed with the final coordination and developing of the proposal for DDS action.

CIA Records Administration Officer

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Attachments:

1. NPIC Request
2. Comments on Archival Developments

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE ARCHIVES CONCEPT

The first Archival Institution was established in Athens, Greece 580 B.C. and the Archives it preserved included their treaties, laws, assembly minutes, and state documents as well as the manuscripts with the Socrates defense, plays by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides plus lists of Olympic game winners. These writing in the form of papyrus rolls were preserved until about the third century after Christ. During the decline of ancient civilization the development of Archival institutions declined.

During the French Revolution many institutions were destroyed but its leaders created the first national Archives. In the first year of the revolution the National Assembly established an Archival institution to house its acts and exhibit them to the public that it represented. As for the treasures and documents of the old and hated regime many radical revolutionists urged their destruction, because they embodied the evils and privileges of the old order. But, more mature minds prevailed and insisting that these archival treasures were now public property and should be available to the people to protect their rights and interests. In the second year of the revolution the Archives Nationales was established in Paris. In decrees passed four and six years later it was given jurisdiction over all records in the departements, provinces, communes, churches, hospitals, universities, and noble families. This recognition of the importance of records to society and its rights resulted in three significant archival developments:

1. The independent, national, archival administration was established,
2. The principle of public access was proclaimed,
3. The responsibility of the state for the care of valuable documents of the past was recognized.

Fifty years later, in 1838 a central archival institution, the Public Record Office, was established in England. Its creation was motivated by practical and cultural reasons rather than by concern for the public. Years of neglect resulted in poor storage and deterioration of government records. Earlier, in 1800, the first of six "Select Committees" investigated the conditions of old archives at some 50 locations. After the Public Record Office was established a House of Commons report deplored that: "it is but a small fraction of the public who know the extent and value, and comprehend the singular completeness of the historical documents of this country. Our Public Records excite no interest, even in the functionaries whose acts they record, the departments whose proceedings they register; or the proprietors to whose property rights they furnish the most authentic, perhaps the only title-deeds."

About a hundred years after the British Public Records Office the United States established the National Archives (The Act of June 19, 1934). As early as 1810 a Congressional Committee found the public papers "in a state of great disorder and exposure and in a situation neither safe nor honorable to a nation." Fires in 1814, 1833, and 1877 destroyed valuable records. A joint Congressional Committee investigated records again in 1877. They found the government offices buried under records and the valuable indistinguishable from the transient. President Hayes appealed to Congress for an Archives. Historians clamored for protective action. In 1899 a Public Archives Commission was formed. In 1913 Congress authorized development of building plans and construction finally began in 1933.

In these few typical examples we find the developments had three major motivations:

1. The practical need to improve government operations and efficiency. (In France and England several centuries of records were scattered across the country. Likewise in the U.S. over a hundred years of valuable records were crammed into attics and basements or cluttered other uncontrolled places.)
2. The cultural reason was most compelling and drew strong support from many quarters and developed the criticisms that got action. (Our nation's cultural resources include records, books, manuscripts and museum treasures. The care of our resources and treasures is considered to be a public obligation as demonstrated early in France. The U.S. Historian Dr. C. M. Andrews reports, "the care which a nation devotes to the preservation of the monuments of its past may serve as a true measure of the degree of civilization to which it has attained.")
3. Personal interest was another impelling consideration. (France was eager to destroy an old society and create a new one, so they were made conscious of the importance of public records in defining social, economic, and political relationships as well as to protect old and new rights and privileges. A government's old records embody the policies, official experience, procedures, economics, and continuity. They are the foundation upon which the governmental structure is built.)

The word "archives" is of Greek origin and has a double definition:

1. "A place in which public records or other important historic documents are kept."
2. "A historic record or document so preserved."

The word "record" is defined as:

"All books, papers, maps, photographs, or other documentary materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by any public or private institution in pursuance of its legal obligations or in connection with the transaction of its proper business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that institution or its legitimate successor as evidence of its functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities or because of the informational value of the data contained therein."

Of special interest here is the fact that an "archive" may be a "record" -- regardless of physical form -- which is adjudged worthy of permanent preservation for reference and research purposes.

Archivist Schellenberg writes: "The essential characteristics of archives, relate to the reasons why records came into being and the reasons why they were preserved. We now accept that to be archives, records must have been produced or accumulated to accomplish a specific purpose and must have values for purposes other than those for which they were produced or accumulated. Public archives, then, have two types of values: the primary values to the originating agency and the secondary values to other agencies and to non-government users."

The Archival principles are clear and so are the intentions of Government policy with the creation of its National Archives. The Agency's responsibility and necessary action in this field seem to me to be equally clear and indisputable.

The deprecation of the Agency by future historians can be countered only by an authoritative, officially documented rebuttal. The Agency's Official Archives of the future will be significantly enhanced with compelling models that were originally created because they proved to be far more informative and graphic for the intelligence community than were the photos, blue prints, and documents from which they were made.

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CIA ARCHIVES AND RECORDS CENTER

21 May 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Value of NPIC Models

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2. NPIC has run out of space to store and wants to move approximately 37 of them into storage. They vary in size from 6'x3'x10" to 1'x1'x8". The Director, NPIC, Mr. Lundahl, is of the opinion that they have historical value and don't want them destroyed.

3. I agree that they have historical value, but we don't have room at the A&RC to store them. I asked Paul to send a memo thru the DDI/RMO to the CIA/RAO requesting that provisions be made to preserve them. This he agreed to do.

[ ]

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Chief

**SECRET**

